

Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report
2017/18

Care Act Criteria (Section 42)



To protect adults in its area who:

- *have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;*
- *are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and*
- *as a result of those care and support needs are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.*

Purpose of WSAB

- The statutory duty and vision of the Board is to seek and provide assurance that adults at risk are safeguarded from abuse or neglect.
- All partners to the Board will work collaboratively to seek assurance that people who have care & support needs are empowered and kept safe from abuse or neglect, and that where abuse occurs, partners respond effectively and proportionately.

Board Membership 2017/18



- Worcestershire County Council
 - DASS
 - Lead Councillor for adult social care
- West Mercia Police
- NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups x 3
- Worcestershire Health & Care NHS Trust
- Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- National Probation Service
- Regulatory Services
- *Worcestershire Housing Strategic Partnership **
- Worcestershire Voices
- Care Homes Association
- Carers Reference Group
- *Advocacy Reference Group**

**New members*

2017/18 Priorities

- To provide and seek assurance of effective leadership, partnership working and governance, holding partners and agencies to account.
- To listen to people who have been subject to abuse or neglect, and seek assurance that people are able to be supported in the way that they want, are involved in decisions and can achieve the best outcomes.
- To be assured that safeguarding is embedded in communities, raising awareness, promoting well-being and preventing abuse and neglect from occurring.
- To seek assurance that effective policies, procedures and practices are in place that ensure the safety and well-being of anyone who has been subject to abuse or neglect, are proportionate and that action is taken against those responsible.

Improving awareness across stakeholders of what safeguarding is as well as what it isn't.



- Safeguarding Adults Process (SAR) improved;
- Approved list of SAR authors established;
- New Training Strategy being developed;
- Policies reviewed and professional guidelines developed;
- Annual learning event well received and oversubscribed;

Demonstrate listening to adults and gathering their views.



- Advocacy Reference Group established.
- Chair for People with Experience reference group appointed
- Reference group network established
- Website still being developed
- GDPR requirements addressed to ensure we can continue using virtual network

Ensuring Key areas are embedded in practice (MSP, MCA and DoLs)



- Annual Assurance redesigned to focus on ensuring key areas are embedded in practice;
- A dashboard now in place to assess progress of WSAB towards meeting its measurable objectives;
- Sharing learning from SARs including Learning & Development Event

Cross cutting work with Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board



- Worked closely to ensure that transition policies and procedures for addressing Child Sexual Exploitation are in place and working effectively;
- Pathway established across children's and adults services to include those young people where CSE has been identified;
- Bi- annual meetings of chairs and officers of WSAB, WSCB, HWBB and CSP to share priorities and identify cross cutting issues continues (e.g CSE, Housing Act changes and Prevent)

Summary



- Good progress overall and no major risks outstanding;
- Though some work has slipped due to capacity issues and meeting host organisations procurement standards;
- Key areas where progress has been made but remain a priority to ensure they are embedded in practice include:
 - Mental Capacity Assessments and Deprivation of Liberty safeguards;
 - Section 42 criteria
 - Making Safeguarding Personal

Safeguarding Adults Reviews

9 Referrals made during 2017/18

Of these:

- **2 met the SAR criteria** – (currently ongoing)
- 3 did not go to SAR but required ‘Single Agency Actions’

2 outstanding SARs from 16/17 published

Themes include:

- Timely record keeping;
- Embedding Mental Capacity Act remains a challenge;
- The Role of lead professional/key coordinator;
- Early offers of support for Carers and Family

All reviews have action plans with target dates for completion which are overseen by Case Review sub-group.

What the data tells us:

Risk of Abuse



- Majority of incidents of abuse were recorded as taking place in the persons own home,
- Followed Care homes and nursing homes;
- Again, slight reduction of incidents in both the persons own home and in care homes;
- Initial reporting continues to show majority of abusers are known to the individual (family, neighbour etc);
- followed by staff in a care settings

What the data tells us:

Demographics



- Concerns about women outnumber men in all age groups though less so in the 65-74 age group
- Older women most at risk, reflects demography
- Majority of concerns are for adults identified as white and continues to indicate under-reporting in BME groups
 - Within BME groups Asian adults are the largest group

Looking Forward – 2018/19

priorities



- **To improve awareness across all stakeholders of what safeguarding is. (Section 42 Criteria).**
- **Demonstrate that we are listening to service user and gathering their views.**
- **Further Embedding knowledge and improving practice around MSP, MCA and DoLs).**
- **To continue to embed cross cutting work with Worcesterstershire Safeguarding Children's Board (and other relevant partnership Boards)**

Key Safeguarding Risks

- Mental Capacity – still some inconsistent practice
- People living at home – data on incidents
- Older people - demographic
- Black & Ethnic Minority communities – lower rate of concerns raised per population
- Understanding of professionals and partners of the safeguarding criteria for Section 42 enquiries and pathways for quality concerns

Key **Risks** for delivery of Objectives & **Mitigation**



- Capacity of staff across all statutory organisations to support the work of the Board and sub groups could continue to delay delivery of work programme
- Additional capacity been identified and some now in place
- Additional resources identified to support work